GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1770
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2015
Use of Mobile by Loco-Pilots during Duty
Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked its loco pilots and assistant loco pilots to furnish details of mobile numbers given to them by the Railway under its close user group plan and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether loco pilots have threatened to go on strike against this move of Railways as they treat it as invasion of privacy;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the rationale behind such plan of railways;
(d) whether any cases of talking on mobiles while driving trains have come to the notice of the Government which have lead to train accidents; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Railways to ensure that train services are not disrupted on this count?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a): No, Madam. Closed User Group (CUG) mobile numbers are provided by Indian Railways to some of its employees including Loco Pilots/Assistant Loco Pilots and these number details are already available with concerned officer.

(b): No, Madam. The Rail administration have not received any such communication.
(c): Does not arise.
(d) & (e): During the last three years, following are the Railway accident cases inquired by Commissioner of Railway Safety where use of CUG phone by Loco Pilots have been noticed:
1. Collision of 66017 Chennai Beach-Vellore Cantonement MEMU train with rear end of 56007 Aakkonam-Katpadi Passanger train between Arakkonam West Cabin and Chitteri stations at K.74/12-14 on the Down line of Arakkonam-Katpadi Electrified Double Line BG Section in Chennai Division of Southern Railway at 21:23 hrs on 13.09.2011.
2. Head-on-collision between 1125 Dn Inter City Express and empty BCN goods train at Badarwas Station which occurred at 04:45 hrs on 20.09.2010 in Bhopal Division of West Central Railway.
Loco Pilots/Assistant Loco Pilots have been instructed not to use their mobile phones while on duty (while driving). Random checks are also conducted to ensure this aspect.
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